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*Sec 108*  
**PATENT** #3

Case Docket No. HARD1.015A  
Date: January 8, 2002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Merkley et al.  
App. No. : 09/970,389  
Filed : October 2, 2001  
For : METHOD AND  
APPARATUS FOR  
REDUCING IMPURITIES  
IN CELLULOSE FIBERS  
FOR MANUFACTURE OF  
FIBER REINFORCED  
CEMENT COMPOSITE  
MATERIALS

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all  
marked attachments are being deposited with the  
United States Postal Service as first class mail in  
an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

January 8, 2002

(Date)

*[Signature]*  
Linda H. Liu, Reg. No. P-51,240

Group Art Unit : Unknown

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**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

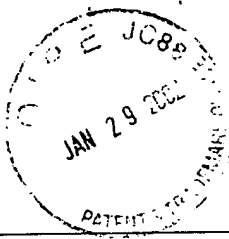
**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231**

ATTENTION: BOX MISSING PARTS

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application Under 37 CFR 1.53(f),  
which was mailed by the Office on November 8, 2001, enclosed are:

- (X) A Communication with attached copies of previously filed documents.
- (X) A Notice to File Missing Parts.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.



PATENT

Case Docket No. HARD1.015A

Date: January 8, 2002

- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, now or in the future, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.

Linda H. Liu

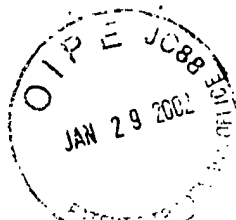
Registration No. P-51,240

Attorney of Record

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010802

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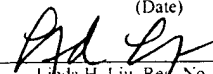
HARD1.015A



#3

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Merkley et al.	)	Group Art Unit Unknown
			)	
Appl. No.	:	09/970,389	)	I hereby certify that this correspondence and all
			)	marked attachments are being deposited with
Filed	:	October 2, 2001	)	the United States Postal Service as first-class
			)	mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant
			)	Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.
			)	20231, on
For	:	METHOD AND APPARATUS	)	January 8, 2002
		FOR REDUCING IMPURITIES	)	(Date)
		IN CELLULOSE FIBERS FOR	)	
		MANUFACTURE OF FIBER	)	Linda H. Liu, Reg. No. P-51,240
		REINFORCED CEMENT	)	
		COMPOSITE MATERIALS	)	
			)	
Examiner	:	Unknown	)	

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COMMUNICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice to File Missing Parts of NonProvisional Application mailed November 8, 2001, Applicant believes that this Notice was mailed in error. Enclosed is a copy of the transmittal letter, check and stamped returned postcard indicating that the filing fee was paid upon submission of the Application on October 2, 2001. Also, the transmittal letter authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees to our deposit account. Therefore, Applicant believes that no additional fees are required.

Appl. No. : 09/970,389  
Filed : October 2, 2001

If additional fees are required, please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

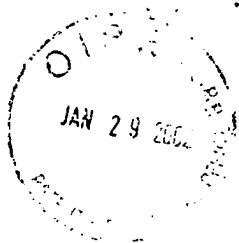
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 11/8/2002

By: 

Linda H. Liu  
Registration No. P-51,240  
Attorney of Record  
620 Newport Center Drive  
Sixteenth Floor  
Newport Beach, CA 92660  
(909) 781-9231

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010802



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. HARD1.015A

Date: October 2, 2001

Page 1

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

ATTENTION: BOX PATENT APPLICATION

**COPY**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s): **Donald J. Merkley and Caidian Luo**

For:

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING IMPURITIES IN CELLULOSE FIBERS FOR  
MANUFACTURE OF FIBER REINFORCED CEMENT COMPOSITE MATERIALS**

Enclosed are:

- (X) Specification in 28 pages.
- (X) 3 sheets of drawings.
- (X) Recordation form cover sheet with 2-page assignment.
- (X) A power of attorney form and copy of assignment.
- (X) Initial signed declaration by inventors.
- (X) Information Disclosure Statement.
- (X) Form PTO-1449 listing 43 references that are enclosed.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

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**CLAIMS AS FILED**

FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	FEE
Basic Fee			\$740	\$740
Total Claims	64 - 20 =	44 ×	\$18	\$792
Independent Claims	6 - 3 =	3 ×	\$84	\$252
If application contains any multiple dependent claims(s), then add			\$280	\$0
<b>TOTAL FILING FEE</b>		<b>\$1784</b>		

- (X) A check in the amount of \$1784 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.


**COPY**

Attorney Docket No. HARD1.015A

Date: October 2, 2001

Page 2

- 
- (X) A check in the amount of \$40 to cover the assignment recording fee.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, now or in the future, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Please use Customer No. 20,995 for the correspondence address.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sabing H. Lee  
Registration No. 43,745  
Attorney of Record

# 46818 KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR

PATENT ACCOUNT  
620 NEWPORT CENTER DR., 16TH FLOOR  
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660

JAN 29 2002

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DATE

10/2/01

11-23 1147  
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FOR

HARD 1.015A

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*Sherry Springer*

MP

# 46819 KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR

PATENT ACCOUNT  
620 NEWPORT CENTER DR., 16TH FLOOR  
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660

DATE

10/2/01

11-24 1147  
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1784<sup>00</sup>

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HARD 1.015A

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*Sherry Springer*

MP

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## UTILITY/DESIGN PATENT

Date: 10/02/01

(application)

Rec'd in the U.S.P.T.O. on the date stamped hereon via:

Express Mail #: EL 717639763 US

Atty: SHL

Atty. Dkt. # HARD 1.015A

Applicant: Merkley et al.

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING IMPURITIES ...

VERIFIED BY: Asst:

sls

Quality Control: JN

☒ Patent Appln. in 28 pgs. incl. Spec and 64 Claims

☒ Transmittal ~~and Duplicate~~ 3 pgs. of Drawings

☐ Preliminary Amendment in \_\_\_ pgs. ☒ Power of Atty. by assignee;

☐ Decl. and Power of Atty. copy of Assignment

☒ Decl. by Inventor(s) ☐ Small Entity Statement(s)

☒ Filed Signed/~~Notarized~~

☒ Assignment in 2 pgs.

☒ Information Disclosure Statement; PTO-1449 w/ 43 Ref(s)

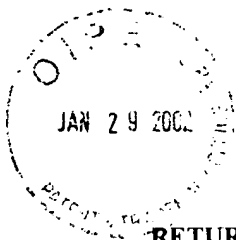
☒ Check for \$ 1,784 Filing Fee

☒ Check for \$ 40 for Assignment

☐

☒ Return Postcard

7/96



COPY

INCOMING  
US. PATENT DOCKETING CHECKLIST  
RETURN POSTCARD FOR A NON-PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION

CLIENT CODE: HARD1.015A

CHECKED BY: Argony DATE: OCT 23 2001  
Staple the postcard in the blank space provided below.

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UTILITY/DESIGN PATENT

Date: 10/02/01

(application)

Rec'd in the U.S.P.T.O. on the date stamped hereon via:

Express Mail #: EL 717639763 US Atty: SHL

Atty. Dkt. # HARD1.015A Applicant: Merkley et al.

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING IMPURITIES ...

VERIFIED BY: Asst: sls Quality Control: SN

☒ Patent Appln. in 28 pgs. incl. Spec and 64 Claims

☒ Transmittal in 3 pgs. of Drawings

☐ Preliminary Amendment in     pgs. ☒ Power of Atty. by assignee;

☐ Decl. and Power of Atty. copy of Assignment

☒ Decl. by Inventor(s) ☐ Small Entity Statement(s)

☒ Filed Signed/Not

☒ Assignment in 2 pgs.

☒ Information Disclosure Statement; PTO-1449 w/ 43 Ref(s)

☒ Check for \$ 1,784 Filing Fee

☒ Check for \$ 40 for Assignment

☐ ☒ Return Postcard

j1002 U.S. PTO  
09/970389  
10/02/01

USE THE FOLLOWING INDICATORS WHEN MARKING THE CHECKLIST:

Y = YES

N = NO

✓ = NON-APPLICABLE

In the Patent Management System:

Y Click on the "Country Applications Data" tab. At "Case Number" type in the client code, then click on the "Start Search" tab.

Y At "Application No." type in the application number noted on the PTO label, affixed to the postcard.

Y Verify the Filing Date in docketing is identical to the Filing Date noted on the PTO label, affixed to the postcard.

If there is a discrepancy, request the file on an URGENT basis. If you determine there is a problem, make note of that on a post-it, bringing to the attorney's attention.

Y Click on the "Save" tab.

Y Click on the "List of Actions" tab and look for an action such as "Postcard Recvd?/APPLN."



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/970,389	10/02/2001	Donald J. Merkley	HARD1.015A

20995  
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP  
620 NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE  
SIXTEENTH FLOOR  
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660

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CONFIRMATION NO. 9683

## FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000007043460\*

Date Mailed: 11/08/2001

## NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

*Filing Date Granted*

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The statutory basic filing fee is missing.  
*Applicant must submit \$ 740 to complete the basic filing fee for a non-small entity. If appropriate, applicant may make a written assertion of entitlement to small entity status and pay the small entity filing fee (37 CFR 1.27).*
- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is \$1098.
  - \$846 for 47 total claims over 20.
  - \$252 for 3 independent claims over 3 .
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(l) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 1968.

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

Customer Service Center  
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE